2/8/66 Johnson's trip to Hawaii 2/5/66

NOVEMBER						
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Thursday, November 11

The abrupt announcement of
9 the unexpected + unnecessary
trip, without the usual buildup, with half the
10 cabinet etc., instead of having Ky (who would take
11 a walk off not so great the US ambassador) to
gen Westmoreland, who also takes vacations in Hawaii,
12 come to the White House (no time today)
1 is indicative of an effort to re-capture the press
in a way to "manage" the news. It played ① a "victory"
at 2 the UN that was really a defeat & may have been
purchased ② The first half-way dis position by TV
3 (CBS) to permit an airing of opposition (the
round table Sunday from [illegible] the Fulbright interview very
4 effective) ③ a "closed-door grilling" of Sec McN., in
which it was learned that he was pushed on one of Rusk/Sen
For. 5 Relations in which he was mildly testily q'd,
(but he isn't used to being questioned, so he forgot himself &

Friday, November 12

and the Senate was given the
power a blank check he was seeking) where Fulb. was
open 9 in his disbelief of some of Rusk's defenses. ④ The
introduction of anti-adm. for. policy legislation by
10 respected Senators ⑤ The first open hearing of
of S. For. Rel. (of a series) where officials were q'd, this
11 with AID adm. Bell which tho' mild, reflected
serious misgivings about for. pol. & was TV'd (CBS) for
12 several hrs (and held at 8:30 a.m., by three for
Senate. Then it was announced that Rusk would not appear
1 except in ex. session on alleged nat. security grounds.
2 This would be expected to have a bad effect on Sen
Senators. J's announcement took some of the play
3 ~~the news~~ away from the Senate hearings.
But they & Rusk forgot what a reading of
4 Allen Drury could have told them, that even
the 5 Press doesn't offend the Senate & belittle it.